Food Processing Industries in Coastal Areas of Maharashtra

103. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to encourage Fruit Processing Industries in Coastal areas of Maharashtra to promote exports;

(b) whether any special assistance is being provided for making the packaging and bottling of food products attractive and competitive;

(c) whether any provision has been made for special training of the youth of Konkan region to process mango, cashew, jackfruit, jamun, coconut, pineapple etc; and

(d) whether any special concession and facilities are being given to the co-operative sector; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) A proposal has been received from the Maharashtra Government on Integrated Post Harvest Crop Management Project for Grapes. The proposal has been approved in principle for financing under the plan scheme of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. The project would give an impetus to export grapes.

(b) The MFPI has a plan scheme under which assistance can be given for marketing of fruit and vegetable product which are manufactured by small processing units. The assistance can be given to State Government undertakings, Co-operative Societies and also to joint sector organisations. However, devising attractive and competitive packaging for the products can form a part of the overall marketing strategy of a unit.

(c) The MFPI is exploring possibilities of formulation of a plan scheme for setting up of Food Processing Training Centers in rural areas and interested persons would be able to avail of the training facilities at these centers. However, at present no special provision had been made to train youth of Konkan region to process fruits and vegetables.

(d) There are various plan schemes for assisting co-operative sector by way of giving financial aid for establishing or upgrading fruit and vegetable processing facilities, for marketing of fruit and vegetable products for Strengthening Backward Linkages in the fruit and vegetable processing industry and for development of fruit and vegetable processing facilities in rural areas.

[*Translation*]

Alleged Commercial Use of DDA Flats

104. SHRI ARVIND NETAM:
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHRY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground floor flats in almost all residential colonies of the Delhi Development Authority are being used for commercial purposes;

(b) whether the Government propose to take any action against guilty persons for violation of rules in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) DDA has reported that some allottees on ground floor flats are partly misusing their flat for commercial purposes.